RG104 E-1 Box 130

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 14. November, 1883.

Sir,

I have examined the communication of Mr. Joseph Wharton, offering, for the base coinage, an alloy of equal parts of pure nickel and copper, with a possible reduction in price of five cents per pound. Disposed, at first view of the subject, to favor our acceptance of the offer, further consideration has led me to the conclusion that the plan of purchasing the ready-made alloy is not as desirable as that of purchasing each of the metals of known purity, and making the alloy under our own supervision, and immediately in the proportion required by law. If we were to make five cent alloy, from a 50 pr. ct. alloy of nickel and copper, by the addition of the best commercial copper, and

if

if the new alloy should prove defective, we could not determine whether the defect had been in the nickel or copper of the alloy purchased, or in the copper we added. This difficulty has occurred before, and is not a mere theoretical inference, and the trouble, time and uncertain deductions springing therefrom, seem to be sufficient warrant for the conclusion the by far the best method is for the Government to purchase the purest nickel and copper to be obtained, and make the alloy in the Mint itself.

Respectfully
Ja^{s} C Booth
M & R

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden
Superintendent.

RG104 E-1 Box 130

1116

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Nov. 14, 1883.

Jas. C. Booth

Melter and Refiner.

Practical Objections to Joseph Wharton's offer to furnish Alloy for mine Coinage 75% nickel & 25% Copper.

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NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 130

[Abstract:] Practical Objections to Joseph Wharton's offer to furnish alloy for minor coinage, 50% nickel, 50% copper. 1116

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,
Melting and Refining Department,
Philadelphia,
November 14, 1883

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